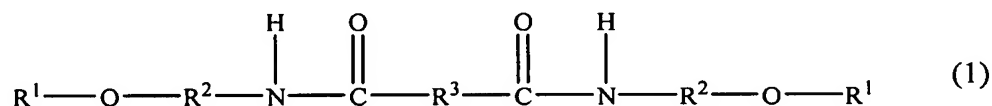


IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A hair ~~cosmetic~~ styling composition comprising the following ingredients (A) and (B): (A) a film-forming polymer; and (B) a diamide compound represented by the following formula (1):



wherein R¹ represents a linear or branched C₁₋₁₂ hydrocarbon group which may be substituted by one or more hydroxyl groups and/or alkoxy groups, R² represents a linear or branched, divalent C₁₋₅ hydrocarbon group, and R³ represents a linear or branched, divalent C₁₋₂₂ hydrocarbon group.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): A hair ~~cosmetic~~ styling composition according to claim 1, comprising as ingredient (B) a diamide compound of formula (1) in which R³ is a linear or branched C₁₁₋₂₂ alkylene group or a linear or branched C₁₁₋₂₂ alkenylene group having 1 to 4 double bonds.

Claim 3 (New): The hair styling composition according to claim 1 wherein said film-forming polymer is anionic and is at least one selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl ester of methyl vinyl ether/maleic acid copolymers, acrylic acid/ethyl acrylate/N-(t-butyl)acrylamide copolymers, octylacrylamide/acrylic acid copolymers, vinyl acetate/crotonic acid copolymers, vinyl acetate/crotonic acid/vinyl neodecanoate copolymers, vinyl acetate/crotonic acid/vinyl propionate copolymers, water-dispersible polyesters,

acrylate/methacrylate/acrylic acid/methacrylic acid copolymers, alkyl acrylate/diacetone acrylamide copolymers AMP, vinyl alcohol/itaconic acid copolymers, polyacrylic acids, carageenan, and xanthan gum.

Claim 4 (New): The hair styling composition according to claim 1 wherein said film-forming polymer is amphoteric and is at least one selected from the group consisting of dimethyldiallylammonium chloride/acrylamide/acrylic acid copolymers, (meth)acrylethylbetaine/alkyl(meth)acrylate copolymers; and alkyl acrylate/butylaminoethyl methacrylate/octyl acrylate amide copolymers.

Claim 5 (New): The hair styling composition according to claim 1 wherein said film-forming polymer is cationic and is at least one selected from the group consisting of polydimethyldiallylammonium chloride, acrylamidopropyltrimethylammonium chloride/acrylate copolymers, acrylamide/dimethyldiallylammonium chloride copolymers, t-butylacrylamide/ethyl acrylate/dimethylaminopropylacrylamide/methoxypolyethylene glycol methacrylate copolymers, t-butylacrylamide/dimethylacrylamide/dimethylaminopropylacrylamide/methoxypolyethylene glycol methacrylate copolymers, methylvinylimidazolium chloride/vinylpyrrolidone copolymers, vinylpyrrolidone/dimethylaminopropylmethacrylamide copolymers, diethyl sulfates of vinylpyrrolidone/dimethylaminoethyl methacrylate copolymers, vinyl alcohol/dimethylaminopropylmethacrylamide copolymers, vinylpyrrolidone/dimethylaminoethyl methacrylate copolymers, vinylpyrrolidone/alkylaminoacrylate/vinylcaprolactam copolymers, hydroxyethylcellulose/dimethyldiallylammonium chloride copolymers, hydroxyethylcellulose/2-hydroxypropyltrimethylammonium chloride copolymers, guar

hydroxypropyltrimonium chloride, and
aminoalkyldimethylpolysiloxane/polyethylenoxazoline copolymers.

Claim 6 (New): The hair styling composition according to claim 1 wherein said film-forming polymer is non-ionic and is at least one selected from the group consisting of polyvinylpyrrolidone, polyvinyl alcohol, vinyl alcohol/vinylamine copolymers, vinylpyrrolidone/vinyl acetate copolymers, acrylate/vinylpyrrolidone copolymers, polyethylene glycol of high polymerization degree, guar gum, pullulan, hydroxypropyl chitosan, and chitosan-dl-pyrrolidonecarboxylate salts.

Claim 7 (New): The hair styling composition according to claim 1, wherein said film-forming polymer is present in an amount of from 0.05 to 30 wt. % in terms of solids based on the whole component.

Claim 8 (New): The hair styling composition according to claim 1, wherein said diamine component (B) is present in an amount of from 0.01 to 20 wt. % based on the whole composition.

Claim 9 (New): The hair styling composition according to claim 1, further comprising a protein.

Claim 10 (New): The hair styling composition according to claim 9, wherein said protein is at least one selected from the group consisting of keratin, elastine, collagen, lactoferrin, casein, $\alpha(\beta)$ -lactoalbumin, globulins, ovalbumin, silk protein and hydrolysates thereof, proteins extracted from wheat, proteins extracted from malt, proteins extracted from

oat, proteins extracted from barley, proteins extracted from corn, proteins extracted from rice, proteins extracted from soybeans, proteins extracted from broad beans, proteins extracted from lupine seeds, proteins extracted from potatoes, proteins extracted from apricot kernels, and hydrolysates thereof.

Claim 11 (New): The hair styling composition according to claim 9, wherein said protein is present in an amount of from 0.01 to 5 wt. % based on the whole composition.

Claim 12 (New): The hair styling composition according to claim 1, further comprising a ceramide.

Claim 13 (New): The hair styling composition according to claim 12, wherein said ceramide is at least one selected from the group consisting of N-acylated sphingosines, N-acylated phytosphingosines and N-acylated dihydrosphingosines.

Claim 14 (New): The hair styling composition according to claim 13, wherein said ceramide is present in an amount of from 0.01 to 5 wt. % based on the whole composition.

Claim 15 (New): The hair styling composition according to claim 1, further comprising at least one silicone derivative.